

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUBUMB 00733 200925Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 AID-05
HA-05 PC-01 /124 W

-----000706 200934Z /17

O 200814Z JUN 78

FM AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2496
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE PRIORITY
R/AMEMBASSY LOME PRIORITY 006
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY
USCINCEUR/ZFF-4/

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUBUMBASHI 0733

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PINS, CG

SUBJECT: SHABAN DEVELOPMENTS: JUNE 20,1978

1. FOREIGN TROOP DEPLOYMENTS: BELGIAN COMMANDER COLONEL
DE PORTER AND HIS DEPUTY COLONEL BLUM, INFORMED CONSULATE
19 JUNE THAT BELGIAN WITHDRAWAL FROM SOUTHERN SHABA WOULD
BEGIN 20 JUNE. ANOTHER BELGIAN SOURCE SPECIFIED THAT
BELGIANS TROOPS IN KAMBOVE WOULD PULL OUT 20 JUNE. AND
THOSE IN KIPUSHI 21 JUNE. THE REMAINING FORCES WILL BE
MOVED OUT BY "THE END OF THE WEEK"(23) JUNE) THE BELGIAN
PLANS TO WITHDRAW THEIR FORCES FIRST TO KAMINA BASE
AND LATER TO BELGIUM. BLUM STATED THAT THEY HOPED TO
RETROGRADE ALL THEIR TROOPS FROM KAMINA BEFORE 26 JUNE.
HE EXPLAINED THAT THE 1ST PHASE (MOVE TO KAMINA) WOULD
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PAGE 02 LUBUMB 00733 200925Z

BE CARRIED OUT BY BELGIAN C-130'S THE SECOND PHASE
(TO BELGIAN) THEY HOPED WOULD BE CARRIED OUT BY 2 USAF
C-141'S. BLUM TOLD CONOFFS THAT BELGIAN AUTHORITIES
HAD ALREADY REQUESTED USAF TRANSPORT ASSISTANCE.

2. GECAMINES OFFICIALS WHO VISITED KOLWEZI ON JUNE 19
REPORTED SEEING THREE FRENCH SOLDIERS WITH MOROCCANS.

HE SAID HE HAD RECOGNIZED THESE SAME SOLDIERS FROM OTHER MEETINGS IN LUBUMBASHI WEARING FRENCH UNIFORMS WITH BOTH RED AND GREEN BERETS. IN KOLWEZI THESE SOLDIERS WERE SEEN IN MOROCCAN UNIFORMS. HE SAID THESE SOLDIERS WERE APPARENTLY PROVIDING ORIENTATION TO MOROCCAN TROOPS IN KOLWEZI.

3. PAN AMERICAN FORCE DEPLOYMENT: PRESENT PLANS FOR PAF DEPLOYMENT IN SOUTH SHABA CALLS FOR THE FORCES TO BE DIVIDED INTO 3 MAJOR GROUPS, IN LUBUMBASHI, LIKASI AND KOLWEZI, WITH SMALLER PERMANENT PRESENCE IN KAMBOVE. PATROLS FROM THE THREE MAJOR BASES WILL BE SENT OUT REGULARLY TO OTHER MINING COMMUNITIES OF KAKANDA, FUNGURUME, AND KIPUSHI

4. GECAMINES OFFICIALS HELD MEETINGS WITH COLONEL LOUBARIS ON 19 JUNE TO DISCUSS DEPLOYMENT. AT THE MEETING THEY EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT NOT STATIONING AT LEAST TEMPORARY TOKEN FORCE AT KIPUSHI TO REPLACE THE DEPARTING BELGIANS. GECAMINES OFFICIALS FEEL SOME FOREIGN TROOPS MUST REMAIN IN KIPUSHI FOR SHORT TERM TO REASSURE EXPATRIATES IN THE CITY. LOUBARIS WAS NOT COMMITAL BUT REPORTEDLY EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT STATIONING HIS TROOPS SO CLOSE TO THE ZAMBIAN-ZAIRIAN FRONTIER.

5. KOLWEZI: BUSINESSMEN WITH FOUR COMMERCIAL OUTLETS
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PAGE 03 LUBUMB 00733 200925Z

IN KOLWEZI ALL BUT ONE OF WHICH WERE LOOTED DURING RECENT WEEKS HAS RETURNED TO LUBUMBASHI IN DISGUST AFTER TRYING TO REOPEN HIS REMAINING KOLWEZI STORE. AS SOON AS DOORS OPENED HE REPORTED ARMED FAZ TROOPS ENTERED DEMANDING MERCHANDISE AT GUNPOINT. HE HAS NO PLANS TO RETURN TO KOLWEZI IN THE NEAR FUTURE. AND IS PASSING THE WORD ABOUT HIS RECEPTION TO OTHER COMMERCIAL COLLEAGUES.

6. ALL OTHER SHABAN TOWNS REMAIN QUIET.

7. SINCE EVENTS ARE NOW ASSUMING MORE ROUTINE NATURE UNLESS EMBASSY KINSHASA OR SECSTATE PREFER OTHERWISE THIS WILL BE LAST OF SHABAN DAILY SITREPS.

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Message Attributes

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